## What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. An optical structure, comprising a resonator
- 2 structure having an optical portion forming a core, and a
- 3 cladding layer formed of an active material, said cladding
- 4 layer configured to amplify optical energy in said core.

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- 2. A device as in claim 1, further comprising a pump
- 2 laser, optically pumping said cladding layer.

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- 3. A system as in claim 2 wherein said cladding layer
- is an erbium doped portion of material.
- 1 4. A system as in claim 2 wherein an effective path
- 2 length of the pumping is based on an optical path length that
- 3 is increased by the amplifycation.
- 1 5. A system as in  $\frac{\pi}{c}$  laim 1 wherein said optically active
- 2 portion is formed of semiconductor material.
- 1 6. A system as  $\frac{1}{h}$ n claim 5 wherein said semiconductor
- 2 material is one of sillicon or gallium arsenide.



- 7. A device as in claim 1 wherein said pumping laser
- 2 pumps the system to produce spontaneous emission from the Core.
- 1 8. A method, comprising:



introducing light into an optical resonator; and amplifying the light in the optical resonator.

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- 9. A method as in claim 8 wherein said amplifying
- 2 comprises amplifying the light until spontaneous emission is
- 3 caused.

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- 10. A method as in claim 8 wherein said amplifying
- 2 comprises adding a pump laser to a doping in a core portion of
- 3 the optical resonator.

- 1 11. A method as in claim 8 wherein said resonator is a
- 2 of the disk resonator.

- 12. A method as in claim 8 wherein said resonator uses silicon as its optically active layer.
- 1 13. A method of sensing rotation, comprising:
- introducing light into an optical resonator;
- 3 rotating said optical resonator; and
- detecting a wavelength dependence caused by said rotation
- 5 to detect some characteristic of said rotation.
  - 14. A method as in claim 13 wherein said detecting comprising detecting an intensity.

15. A method as in claim 13 wherein said detecting comprises detecting a wavelength.

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16. A laser comprising an optical resonator, with an active core material, and a pump laser which drives said active clad material until said optical resonator spontaneously emits light.

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